

Message Text

SECRET

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73

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /058 W

----- 073533

R 291602Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2825

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 08468

LIMDIS

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

SHAPE FOR INTAF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MCAP, PFOR, FR, GW

SUBJECT: FRANCO-GERMAN TALKS ON SALT AND SECURITY ISSUES

1. FRG DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER ROTH HAS INFORMED US ON HIS MAY 28 TALKS IN PARIS WITH QUAI OFFICIALS SCHRICKE AND MISTRAL. ROTH SAID TALKS WERE VERY FRIENDLY AND RELAXED, WITH HIS FRENCH INTERLOCUTORS EVIDENTLY KEEPING LOOSE PENDING POSSIBLE CHANGES IN FRENCH POSITIONS ON SECURITY ISSUES.

2. MAIN TOPIC OF DISCUSSIONS WAS SALT. ROTH URGED FRENCH TO RECONSIDER PARTICIPATION IN PETRIGNANI GROUP. SCHRICKE REPLIED NEGATIVELY, BUT "WITHOUT THE USUAL RING OF FINALITY." SCHRICKE SAID PARIS WISHED TO AVOID

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INTERMINGLING FRENCH NUCLEAR POLICY WITH COMMON

EUROPEAN POSITIONS, FOR FEAR OF BINDING THEIR OWN HANDS. HOWEVER, THE QUAI REPS ACKNOWLEDGED GISCARD'S CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS REGARDING ATLANTIC PARTNERSHIP AND WERE OBVIOUSLY BEING CAREFUL TO KEEP THEIR OPTIONS OPEN.

3. ROTH SAID THE FRENCH WERE QUITE POSITIVE ON CURRENT U.S. INTENTIONS REGARDING EUROPEAN INTERESTS IN SALT. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT THE FBS/NON-CENTRAL ISSUE WAS NOT URGENT, AND WOULD NOT BECOME SO "AS LONG AS NEGOTIATIONS ON CENTRAL SYSTEMS WERE NOT MOVING." MOREOVER, THE FRENCH STATED THAT THE U.S. REALIZED THAT "IT WOULD BE AGAINST AMERICAN INTERESTS TO DEAL OVER EUROPEAN HEADS ON FBS." ACCORDING TO ROTH, THE QUAI REPS AGREED THAT "RECIPROCITY" WOULD BE TOUGH TO ACHIEVE - PERHAPS EVEN HARDER ON NON-CENTRAL THAN ON CENTRAL SYSTEMS.

4. ROTH SAID THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF MBFR, CCD OR CBM'S. HE REPORTED THAT, AT MAY 27-28 POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING IN BONN, POLITICAL DIRECTOR PUAUX HAD OPPOSED FURTHER MEETINGS OF EC-9 ARMS CONTROL GROUP. IN THE END, HOWEVER, ROTH SAID POLITICAL COMMITTEE DEFERRED DECISION ON TOPIC.

5. ROTH SAID FRG WAS PLEASED BY CHOICE OF SAUVAGNARGUES AS NEW FOREIGN MINISTER, TERMING HIM PERSONALLY DISPOSED TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING ON ISSUES LIKE MBFR, EUROGROUP AND COOPERATION WITH NATO. BIG QUESTION IN BONN IS WHETHER SAUVAGNARGUES WILL PLAY MAJOR ROLE IN FIXING FRENCH FOREIGN POLICY OR WILL ESSENTIALLY ADMINISTER THE QUAI D'ORSAY.
HILLENBRAND

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